

The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter

website: www.fortlauderdalesar.org

FaceBook page: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 56 Number 01

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

Jan 2025

I hope all of you are recharged and are looking forward to an eventful and memorable 2025. Since our last meeting, your Executive Committee has met twice (December 29, 2024 and January 9, 2025) in order to discuss next year's calendar and next year's funding plan. Monthly meeting dates will continue to be on a Saturday but will vary to avoid conflicts with other known SAR or SAR related events. The 2025 calendar will be finalized soon. When distributed, pay extra attention to it when transcribing it to your records. For the list of first 2025 quarter events – see the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter.

The Ex Com will approve our 2025 Operating Budget before the February 2025 General Meeting. We have a lot on our plate and our resources are limited. We are discussing how to go forward with our prior year initiatives and expand the fiscal base to take on more. Our priorities continue to be: youth education and support; veterans assistance and support, and the NSSAR Museum and Educational Center. We also are committed to assist in the funding of the first amphibious naval-marine landing assault memorial monument. The latter new initiative will draw on our limited savings, but this is the perfect initiative to devote non-recurring rainy day funds to. We have set a goal of contributing \$5,000 to this project in 2025. Of this amount, \$3,000 is made up of approximately \$2,100 in invested interest earnings. \$500 from the balance in the John Copanos estate donation, and the remaining \$400 from the membership's end of prior year discretionary use donations. Over the next four to six months, we will explore from membership its support for this important project, and we plan to make the balance of our 2025 commitment from additional member donations.

On membership, we were the first of 34 Florida chapters to get our 2025 dues into State. When submitted, we had 79 members, including two dual and three juniors. Santa brought us a present on Christmas eve when one of our applicants was approved by National. This brought our 2024 membership to 80, and the membership profile of our newest member, Chris Wadsworth, is included as the last article in this newsletter. So, we started 2024 with 75 members and realized a net increase of five by December 31, 2024. We ended the year with two other applicants having submitted applications being processed for approval by NSSAR, and we start 2025 with four new prospective members who are working with me on their applications.

For links to archival information on previously published newsletters, meeting minutes and other Chapter documents, visit us at www.fortlauderdalesar.org.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams

President, Treasurer and Registrar/Genealogist Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR

NEXT MEETING – January 11, 2025 Davie Outback Steak House 2725 South University Dr. Davie, Florida 33328 Time: 11:30 AM social gathering; Lunch at noon.

FUTURE DATES:

Saturday, 02/08/2025 Saturday, 03/22/2025 Saturday. 04/19/2025

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276

or e-mail Chuck Adams at: chuckadams1808@gmail.com

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 23, 2024

At our November 23, 2024 meeting we had 18 members and 9 quests for a total attendance of 27. Members (18): Chuck Adams, President, Treasurer, Registrar & Genealogist; Steve DePaul, Vice President & Sergeant-at-Arms; Mark Sniderca, Secretary; Kevin Shurte^{ca}, Historian; Tim McLane^{ca}, Chaplain; Jim Blakeslee; Tom Carpenter Jrca; Jim Clarkca; Paul DeBold; Herb Gardner; Martin Hollick; Michael Ingram; James Lohmeyer; Jim McHughca; Jason Milgram; Paul Mooreca; Barry Moss; and John Sauerwald. Prospective Members / Guests (9): Bruce Angier; Applicant; Ronna Adams; Joyce Blakeslee: Liana Carpenter; Kellv Conner. Fontenada Chapter DAR; Shelley Gardner; Hannah Levitt, Award Recipient / Fontenada Chapter DAR; Kathy Shurte^{ca}: and Ceta McDonald. The superscript records compatriots and guests attending in colonial attire.

Color Guardsmen Tom Carpenter Jr, Jim Clark, Tim McLane, Paul Moore, & Mark Snider led by Kevin Shurte presented the colors. The Invocation was given by Tim McLane, who also conveyed well wishes to Compatriot David Lohmeyer. Chuck Adams led the participants in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Steve DePaul recited the SAR Mission Statement, and Chuck Adams led the participants in reciting the SAR Pledge. Jason Milgram gave this month's 250 Minute which summarized the Continental Congress' approval of the Articles of Confederation on November 15, 1777.

Chuck Adams acknowledged the presence of our newest member, Michael Ingram, who will be inducted today; and, our newest applicant, Bruce Angier, who will sign and mail his application later today. He, along with the previous submissions of Chris Wadsworth and Al Evans, make 3 that are pending approval at NSSAR. Also, in NSSAR for approval, previously are the submitted supplementals from Kevin Shurte and Martin Hollick, and a memorial application submitted by Mark Snider for his grandfather, Robert D. Snider. Our 2025 membership renewal process has ended. During 2024, we grew to 86 but at year end we adjusted for two deaths, four non-renewals and one out-of-state transfer. Our Chapter began 2024 with 75. Unless one of the three new application gets

approved before December 31, 2024, we will end the year at 79.

Chuck Adams gave the financial status of funds reported as of October 31, 2024. He stated that the November 2024 Newsletter has been circulated and posted. It includes the Member Profiles of new member, Michael Ingram, and junior member, Mason Primiano.

After receiving the report of the Executive Committee, which met via Zoom on November 19, 2024, to revise the original slate approved on October 6, 2024, the amended and proposed slate of 2025 elected officers were unanimously approved: Chuck Adams, President, Treasurer, Registrar & Genealogist; Steve DePaul, Vice President; Mark Snider, Secretary; Kevin Shurte, Historian; and Tim McLane, Chaplain. Chuck Adams then announced appointments to non-elected positions and chairmanships, and said that further appointments would be announced at the February 2025 meeting,

Steve DePaul reported that as the Florida SAR's First Marine Amphibious Assault Memorial Chairman, that he continues to work with FLSAAR committee members and the City of Pompano Beach to erect an obelisk-type monument on property owned by Pompano Beach. The monument will commemorate the Revolutionary War naval battle and assault on Nassau occurring off the Florida shores in March of 1776. There will be more to report on at future meetings, including the fundraising plan. An artist rendering is available for members to review.

Mark Snider reported that our total 2024 Stark Report points is currently at 13,132. He stated that the VA Centenarian Award was presented to Isabel Diamond at the Nininger's Veterans Day ceremony. Additionally, we presented the SAR Wounded Warrior Certificate and Coin to: James Stubbs, a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars; and Marc McGahey, an Army Green Beret veteran of the Vietnam War.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (cont'd)

Mark Snider stated that he had the opportunity to participate in the color guard at two Patriot Grave Markings in the Cincinnati area at the beginning of November 2024. These included John Bigger Sr. with the Richard Montgomery Chapter in Bellbrook, Ohio, and Reverend Sergeant Chichester Matthews with the Simon-Kenton Chapter in Boone County, Kentucky.

Kevin Shurte gave the 250 Anniversary Recognition Report entitled, *Battle of Fort Washington-November 16, 1776*, which is also published in the November 2024 Newsletter.

Youth Education Programs: Kevin Shurte reported that the Chapter aims to expand our participation in SAR-recognized youth education awards contests. One of these efforts involves recognizing local teachers of American History in middle schools and high schools. He was pleased to receive the nomination of Hannah Lea Levitt from a member of the Fontenada Chapter DAR. Ms. Levitt has outstanding qualifications, having taught American History for over 15 years, and who is currently teaching at McFatter Technical High School. She is this year's Chapter recipient of the Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award.

Chuck Adams presented Hannah Lea Levitt with a check for \$100 and her SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Certificate recognizing her as the Broward County, FL first-place winner of the 2024-25 SAR contest. Kevin Shurte then presented her with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and lapel pin. Hannah Levitt thanked the Chapter membership. She presented her remarks on the importance of teaching American History to future generations. She expressed her excitement about competing in this contest at the Florida Society level and possibly at the National level. Hannah then read the essay that she had submitted for the award.

Chuck Adams inducted new member, Compatriot Michael James Ingram, and presented his membership certificate. Steve DePaul then presented his Rosette recognition lapel pin.

Chuck Adams presented Compatriot Jim McHugh with his membership certificate to the Samuel Nicholas Camp # 23 Color Guard having joined as of today, November 23, 2024. Kevin Shurte

presented his SAR Color Guard Challenge Coin. Chuck noted that the Color Guard started with 6 members and has now grown to 10.

As a recipient of the Purple Heart for injuries sustained as an infantry soldier in Vietnam, Chuck Adams presented Jim Blakeslee with the SAR Wounded Warrior Certificate. Mark Snider presented him with the SAR Wounded Warrior Coin, and the SAR Veterans Committee Challenge Coin. Chuck Adams also presented Jim Blakeslee with his Certificate of Appreciation for serving as a Chapter Representative for the 2024 JROTC / Sea Cadets Medal Awards Program.

Chuck Adams announced that at the meeting scheduled for January 11, 2025, that the Fort Lauderdale Chapter will host the annual S.E. Regional Meeting which will include members of the Palm Beach and Miami Chapters.

Steve DePaul to led the participants in reciting the SAR Recessional. The Benediction was given by Tim McLane.

To read the complete set of the minutes of the general members meeting held on November 23, 2024, open the document sent to you by e-mail, or review it at the archive's subpage for minutes and agendas which are maintained at the Chapter website: www.fortlauderdalesar.org.



November 23, 2024, Fort Lauderdale SAR Lunch Group



FORT LAUDERDALE CHAPTER SAR

JAN 2025 PAGE 4

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (cont'd)





Left: 250 Minute Report by Jason Milgram; and Right: 250 America Presentation by Kevin Shurte



2024 American History Teacher Award - Left: Kevin Shurte; Hannah Levitt, recipient; & Chuck Adams



New Member Induction, Left: Steve DePaul; Michael Ingram, inductee; & Chuck Adams



250 Medal Certificate Award, Left: Kevin Shurte; Kathy Shurte, Bronze & Silver recipient; Ronna Adams, Bronze recipient; & Chuck Adams



Samuel Nicholas Camp New Color Guard Member Left: Kevin Shurte, Jim McHugh & Chuck Adams



Wounded Warrior Certificate & Coin – Left: Mark Snider; Jim Blakeslee, recipient; & Chuck Adams

AMERICA 250 Thomas Paine Publishes "Common Sense" January 10, 1776 By Kevin R. Shurte



Thomas Paine latthew Pratt 1785-9 No could one have profound predicted the impact that a 47-page pamphlet would have on the turmoil brewing in the American Colonies in the 1770's. Yet, in January **Thomas** Paine 1776. published Common Sense. a work that would rally a people and inspire the declaration of a new nation.

by Matthew Pratt 1785-95 Paine struggled early in life. He failed school at age 13. He struggled as a corset apprentice and was unsuccessful as both a sailor and as an entrepreneur. He was also released twice from his position as excise tax collector – the second time for lobbying Parliament for a wage increase for himself and his colleagues.

By 1772, Paine had separated from his wife. With limited professional prospects, and frustrated with Britain's parliamentary system, Paine returned to London. With introduction from George Lewis Scott, well-known mathematician and excise commissioner, Paine became acquainted with Benjamin Franklin who was impressed with the thirty-seven-year-old "young man" Archives). In September of 1774, with Franklin's sponsorship and a letter recommending him to Richard Bache of Pennsylvania, Paine set out for the Americas.

Paine arrived in Philadelphia in November 1774 where Franklin's endorsement proved invaluable, helping the newly-arrived immigrant secure a position as editor of Pennsylvania Magazine. His arrival coincided with the rising anti-British sentiment that was sweeping the colonies in resentment of the injustices inflicted upon them by an oppressive Parliament and an uncaring King. Paine, who in London had felt like a lone voice crying in the wilderness, now found himself among like-minded men committed to the cause of liberty. Paine immersed himself in the revolutionary cause and within a year had accepted Dr. Benjamin Rush's proposal to draft a pamphlet explaining the need for independence and a new form of government.

On January 10, 1776, Paine anonymously published Common Sense in Philadelphia. Both an assault on British misrule and a rationale for self-government, Common Sense spoke to common people in common language. Paine questioned how a "mother country" could mistreat her children so badly and highlighted the irrationality of an island's rule over a vast nation when he wrote, "there is something absurd, in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island." In his treatise, Paine differentiated America from Britian pointing out that America was no longer an exclusively British nation, but a multicultural society comprised of diverse nationalities and religious beliefs that ought to be governed accordingly. He famously proclaimed that "the cause of America is in great measure the cause of all mankind" and that "in America THE LAW IS KING."

In a nation of 2.5 million people, *Common Sense* sold an astonishing 500,000 copies. Ever the resolute patriot, Paine is said to have donated all his earnings to support the Continental Army. Historians credit this writing not only with dispelling doubts among the colonists, but also with paving the way for the drafting of the Declaration of Independence just months later.

Common Sense was Paine's first major success, but it would not be his last. He continued to write throughout and after the war. Paine's inspirational American Crisis pamphlet, published on December 23, 1776, reignited the resolve of an army and a nation with his iconic words about 'the times that try men's souls' and 'sunshine patriots.' It is often said that Paine embodied the adage that "the pen is mightier than the sword." John Adams remarked that "without the pen of Paine, the sword of Washington would have been wielded in vain" (American Battlefield Trust).

Works Cited

- "1776: Paine, Common Sense (Pamphlet)." Online Library of Liberty, oll.libertyfund.org/pages/1776paine-common-sense-pamphlet. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.
- 2. Brandon. "Common Sense (Pamphlet) by Thomas Paine Summary & Full Text." *Totally History*, 17 Jan. 2014, totallyhistory.com/common-sense-pamphlet/.
- "Common Sense Quotes by Thomas Paine." Goodreads, Goodreads, www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/2548496common-sense. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.

AMERICA 250 (cont'd)

- "Founders Online: From Benjamin Franklin to Richard Bache, 30 September 1774." National Archives and Records Administration, National Archives and Records Administration, founders.archives.gov/documents/Franklin/01-21-02-0170. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.
- 5. Galles, Gary M. "Thomas Paine on Government, Liberty, and Power." *Foundation for Economic Education*, 6 Feb. 2024, fee.org/articles/thomas-paine-on-government-liberty-and-power/.
- Greenwalt, Phillip S. "Thomas Paine's Common Sense." American Battlefield Trust, www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/common-sense. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.
- 7. "How Thomas Paine's 'common Sense' Helped Inspire the American Revolution." *History.Com*, A&E Television Networks, www.history.com/news/thomas-paine-common-sense-revolution. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.
- 8. "Thomas Paine One of America's Founding Fathers." *The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia*, 29 June 2020, www.theconstitutional.com/blog/2020/02/25/thomaspaine-one-americas-founding-fathers.
- "Thomas Paine: American Crisis." Ushistory.Org, Independence Hall Association, ushistory.org/paine/crisis/c-01.htm. Accessed 29 Dec. 2024.
- 10. "Thomas Paine: Facts, Early Years, Life, Death & Politics." *Revolutionary War*, 4 Mar. 2020, www.revolutionary-war.net/thomas-paine/.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 27 to Mar 1, 2025	SAR Spring Leadership, Louisville, KY
Mar 15, 2025	Last Naval Battle Ceremony, Merrit Island, FL
Mar 29, 2025	Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony, Jacksonville, FL
Apr 05, 2025	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
May 09, 2025 May 16 to	Battle of Pensacola Commemoration, Pensacola, FL
May 17, 2025	Spring BOM, Kissimmee, FL
May 17, 2025	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

At the Executive Committee meeting held on December 29, 2024:

- A draft of the 2025 Annual Membership Meeting Calendar was approved but subsequently amended at the follow-up meeting of the committee held on January 9, 2025.
- The final amended 2024 Budget was approved with the amended budget adjusted to equal actual transaction amounts.
- Chuck Adams announced that he appointed Paul Moore to the non-elected position of Chancellor and also has appointed Paul to be our Parliamentarian. The Executive Committee approved making the Chancellor position a 2025 elected officer, and the membership will be asked to elect Paul Moore to the position of Chancellor at our general meeting in February 2025.
- Chuck Adams recommended that the ExCom appoint Tom Carpenter Jr to the vacated elected position of Chaplain. This was approved by the committee and Tom Carpenter will serve as provisional Chaplain until ratified by the membership at the general meeting in February 2025
- There was discussion about the 2025 budget and what resources can be allocated to assist in the funding of the First Amphibious Assault Monument Project. There is an immediate need to raise \$5,000. The Board of Trustees for the Chapter's Trust Fund (Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul & Paul Moore) met on December 23, 2024 and authorized the redemption of all of the Trust Estate U.S. I-Bonds - \$10,000 in the 2024 calendar year and the balance of \$6,100 in early January 2025. The ExCom members at the December 29, 2024 meeting authorized the redemption of the \$3,500 in Chapter I-Bonds. All principle totaling \$19,600 from combined sources will immediately be reinvested but the interest from the redemption proceeds of about \$2,000 will be set aside for the monument project along with an additional \$1,000 from Chapter savings and member discretionary use donations.



IN THE NEWS

YULETIDE PARADE

On December 5, 2024, the Fort Lauderdale Color Guard, joined the Fontenada Chapter DAR and the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. in marching in the Pompano Beach Yuletide Parade on Atlantic.



From left front row: Ronna Adams & Amanda Barnes; back row: Kevin Shurte, Steve DePaul, Braeden Shurte, Paul Moore & Chuck Adams.



BOM FALL MEETING

The Florida Board of Membership (BOM) conducted its rescheduled fall forum at Kissimmee, FL on December 6 & 7. In attendance for the Chapter were: Chuck Adams, Kevin (and Kathy) Shurte, and Steve DePaul.





Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade with at Front Right, Chuck Adams, and Second Row, Third from Right, Kevin Shurte.

At this meeting, Chuck Adams was recognized for his 2023 membership recruitment with the award of his third Liberty Medal Bronze Cluster.

The Chapter was recognized for its support and outreach during 2023 of Partners in Patriotism and Wreaths Across America.



Both awards had been announced at the 134th National Congress held in July 2024 at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

December 14, 2024 marked Wreaths Across America. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR was well represented at the ceremony held at the Forest Lawn Cemetery in Pompano Beach. At least 19 Compatriot members and friends were in attendance. The Fort Lauderdale Color Guard opened the ceremonies with the presentation of colors.

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)



Left: Kevin Shurte, Paul Moore, Mark Snider, Jim Clark, Chuck Adams & Braeden Shurte.

Besides the Color Guard, others in attendance: Michael Ingram, Jim and John Lohmeyer; Mason Primiano and Kyle Peterson; Ronna Adams; Amanda Barnes and daughter, Sarah Barnes; Donna Clark; Shelley & daughter, Peri Gardner, Katy Peterson; & Angela Primiano

FROM COMPATRIOT RICK KIDDER

On December 16, 2024, compatriot Rick Kidder Jr. sent this update:



"In December 2024, Rick Kidder embarked on a week-long voyage in the Atlantic North to demonstrate edge-tocapabilities cloud supporting an AUKUS (Australia, United Kingdom and United States) Subsurface and Seabed Warfare (SSW) exercise.

The SSW is a focus of the AUKUS trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Rick's mission focused on addressing the challenges of operating in Degraded, Intermittent, and Low-bandwidth (DDIL) environments, which are critical for AUKUS operations. Leveraging his expertise in maritime operations, data analytics, and cloud technologies, Rick developed innovative solutions to enhance data management and analysis capabilities in these challenging conditions, directly supporting the

AUKUS partnership's goals of deeper information sharing, technology integration, and enhanced defense capabilities among Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States."



AMBRY RESTAURANT

On December 21, 2024, the Shurte – Barnes family celebrated an annual Christmas dinner at the Ambry German-American Restaurant in Fort Lauderdale. Also among the SAR members in attendance where Chuck (and Ronna) Adams, Steve (and Ritz) DePaul, and Paul Moore.



Clockwise from left: Paul Moore, Steve DePaul, Ritz DePaul, Celina Saucedo, Braeden Shurte, Kathy Shurte, Kevin Shurte, Chuck Adams, Ronna Adams, Amanda Barnes, and Joe Barnes.



SAR MEMBER PROFILE – CHRISTOPHER W. T. WADSWORTH

Interviewed by Chuck Adams

Q. Ok Chris, tell us a little bit about yourself.



A. I was born in 1988 in Fort Lauderdale, FL where I grew up. I attended both Cardinal Gibbons and St. Thomas high schools, and I graduated from St. Thomas. I played football for Cardinal Gibbons as a defensive end and received the Defensive Line Award. For college, I attended Florida State University. Currently, I live in a condominium on a golf course in Tamarac, FL.

Q. What is/was your occupation?

A. I have been working in the factoring industry since finishing college in 2013. From 2014-2016, I worked for 123Lump\$um. In 2016, I left there with my older brother, Rhett Wadsworth, to form our own settlement funding company -- WePayMore Funding. We built a 2-story office building in Wilton Manors, where our company headquarters are located.

- Q. Tell us about some of your recreational interests?
- A. I enjoy golfing on the weekends, fishing, the outdoors, and watching FSU football on Saturdays. I love to read histories and biographies of great individuals. My family owns a lake house in northern Maine, where I spend 2 weeks on average every summer. I am also passionate about politics and government.
- Q. How about your family?

A. I am one of 6 children, all from the same parents, Mark and Barbara Wadsworth. I have never been married and do not have any children. I love being an uncle to my 7 nieces and nephews. My grandfather, Dr. Charles Wadsworth, was a Captain in the US Army during WWII. My oldest brother, Mark, attended the US Naval Academy and is currently a Commander in the US Navy.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My Patriot ancestor is David Mosely (1735-1798). He was a lifelong resident of Westfield, Hampshire, MA. During the American Revolution, he was a member of the Westfield Committee of Correspondence and Safety. He was also a member and officer of the Hampshire Militia, achieving the rank of Colonel.

- Q. Tell us about why you want to join SAR and whether you have plans on how you may want to get more involved with carrying out the mission and programs of the SAR.
- A. As previously mentioned, I am very enthusiastic about history of all sorts, especially American History pertaining to the Revolutionary War period. I want to be involved with the SAR so I can share my passion and zeal for the United States and our rich history with younger generations.

Thanks, Chris, for sharing.

2025 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT / TREASURER - CHUCK ADAMS

1808 NW 124 Way Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887 954-345-6276

VICE-PRESIDENT / SGT-AT-ARMS - STEVEN DE PAUL

11240 SW 21 Street Miramar, FL 33025-6634 954-232-5008

REGISTRAR / GENEALOGIST - CHUCK ADAMS

1808 NW 124 Way Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887 954-345--6276

SECRETARY - MARK SNIDER

3051 NE 47 Court Apt 210 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308-5377 317-748-3651

HISTORIAN - KEVIN SHURTE

460 NW 52 Street Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-3231 954-588-2908

CHAPLAIN – THOMAS CARPENTER JR.

2623 Cleveland Street Hollywood, FL 33020-2924 954-299-8091

CHANCELLOR / PARLIAMENTARIAN - PAUL MOORE

4025 N. Federal Hwy, Apt Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308-5597 617-901-8343